

#### **Disclaimer**

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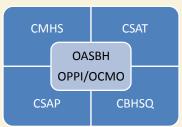
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#### **About SAMHSA**

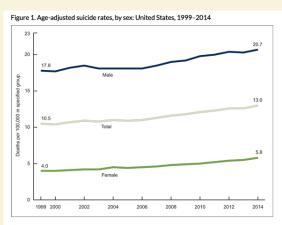
- → One of several agencies in the HHS family of agencies
- → The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act (Dec 2016) elevated SAMHSA leadership to the Assistant Secretary level

→ Activities: Block grant, grants and contracts, congressionally mandated

→ General organization:



# **US Suicide Rates are Rising**

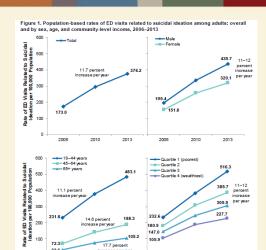


NOTES: Suicide deaths are identified with codes U03, X60–X84, and Y87.0 from the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision. Access data table for Figure 1 😤 .

SOURCE: NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

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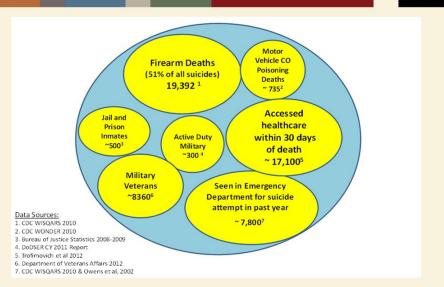
## **Rates of ED visits with Suicidal Ideation**



#### **SAMHSA** resources:

- Toolkit
- Children
- Adults
- SUD
- College Campus
- American Indian Resources

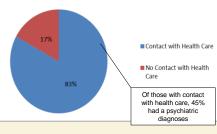




## You can't fix what you can't measure....

Perhaps a third of all suicide decedents accessed care prior to death, but few U.S. health care systems track suicide outcomes.

#### Mental Health Research Network Report (within 12 months of suicide death)

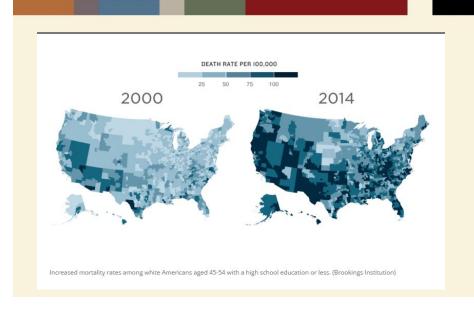


Ahmedani BK et al (2014). Health care contacts in the year before suicide death. Journal of General Internal Medicine, online Feb 25. DOI: 10.1007/s11606-014-2767-3.

# Suicide Decedents from NVDRS States In mental health treatment at time of death Not in mental health treatment at time of death

Karch, DL, Logan, J, McDaniel, D, Parks, S, Patel, N, & Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2012). Surveillance for violent deaths—national violent death reporting system, 16 states, 2009. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. Surveillance Summaries (Washington, DC: 2002), 61(6), 1-43.

# **Special Note: Deaths of Despair**



# Recent Focus: Zero Suicide

→ "We want to make healthcare Suicide Safe"

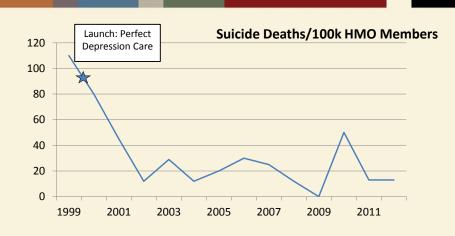


#### Zero Suicide...

- → Makes suicide prevention a core responsibility of health care.
- → Applies new knowledge and tools for suicide care.
- → Supports efforts to humanize crisis and acute care.
- → Is a systematic approach in health systems, not "the heroic efforts of crisis staff and individual clinicians."
- → Is embedded in the Joint Commission Sentinel Event Alert and the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention (NSSP).

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# A System-Wide Approach Saved Lives: Henry Ford Health System



## **Reducing Suicide**

Reversed an alarming increasing trend

- Part of Medicaid Improvement Plan
- In their legislative suicide prevention report they state "we are committed to becoming a Zero Suicide System of Care"





Utah:

- Nation's largest provider of communitybased behavioral healthcare
- Tennessee saw a 64% reduction in suicides in the first 10 months of using the C-SSRS.





- Helped lead to a 22% reduction in suicides in 2014
- Top-down rollout at 14 Marine Bases and training for all support staff
- Lowest suicide rate of any branch of the armed forces



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# Joint Commission Sentinel Event Alert 56: *Detecting and Treating Suicide Ideation in All Settings*



"The suggested actions in this alert cover suicide ideation detection, as well as the screening, risk assessment, safety, treatment, discharge, and follow-up care of at-risk individuals. Also included are suggested actions for educating all staff about suicide risk, keeping health care environments safe for individuals at risk for suicide, and documenting their care."

# Best Practices in Suicide Care for Health Care Systems and Providers

Virna Little, PsyD, LCSW-r, MBA, CCM, SAP
Senior Vice President Psychosocial
Services/Community Affairs
The Institute for Family Health

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# #ZeroSuicide @ZSinstitute

# Zero Suicide Website



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## Zero Suicide is...

- → Embedded in the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention and Joint Commission Sentinel Event Alert #56.
- → A focus on error reduction and safety in health care.
- → A framework for systematic, clinical suicide prevention in behavioral health and health care systems.
- → A set of best practices and tools including www.zerosuicide.com

#### 2012 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention:

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR ACTION**

- A report of the U.S. Surgeon General and of the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention
- GOAL 8: Promote suicide prevention as a core component of health care services.
- GOAL 9: Promote and implement effective clinical and professional practices for assessing and treating those at risk for suicidal behaviors.

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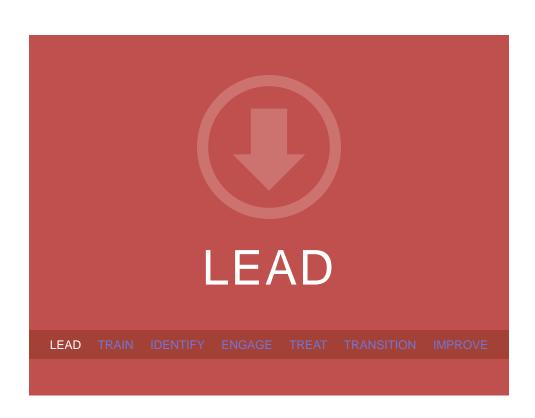
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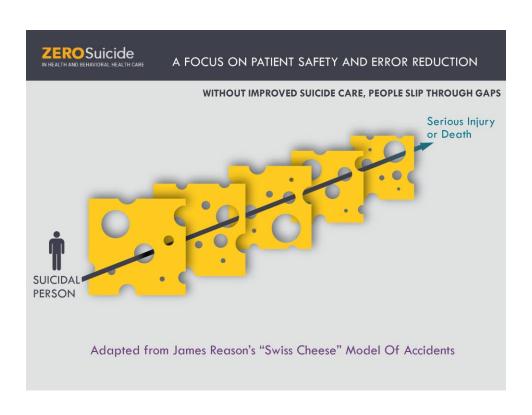
# **Suicide and Health Care Settings**

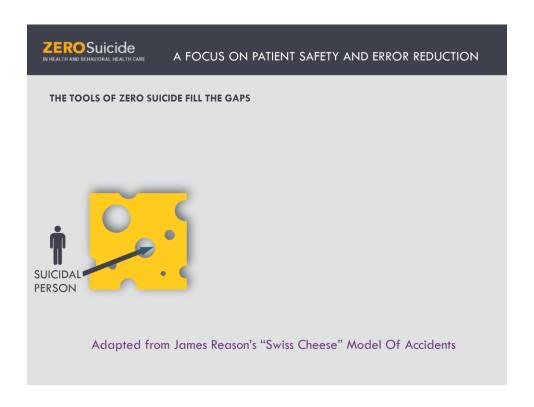
- → 45% of people who died by suicide had contact with <a href="primary care">primary care</a> providers in the month before death.
- → 19% of people who died by suicide had contact with mental health services in the month before death.
- → South Carolina: 10% of people who died by suicide were seen in an <u>emergency department</u> in the two months before death.

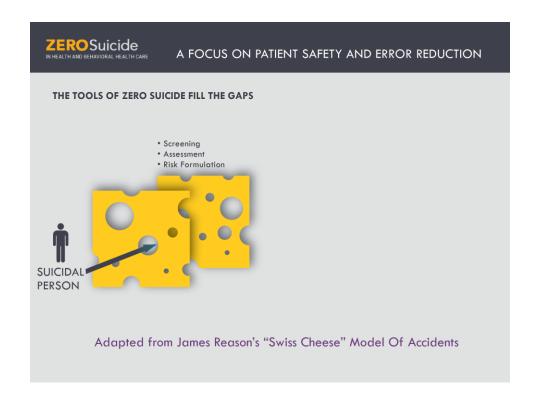


# **Leadership Commitment** and Culture Change

- Leadership makes an explicit commitment to reducing suicide deaths among people under care and orients staff to this commitment.
- Organizational culture focuses on safety of staff as well as persons served; opportunities for dialogue and improvement without blame; and deference to expertise instead of rank.
- Attempt and loss survivors are active participants in the guidance of suicide care.























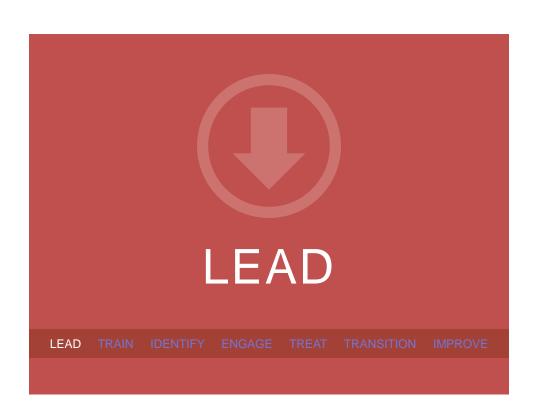
#### What is Different in Zero Suicide?

- → Suicide prevention is a core responsibility of health care
- → Applying new knowledge about suicide and treating it directly
- → A systematic clinical approach in health systems, not "the heroic efforts of crisis staff and individual clinicians."



# **Quality Improvement and Evaluation**

- → Suicide deaths for the population under care are measured and reported on.
- → Continuous quality improvement is rooted in a just safety culture.
- → Fidelity to the Zero Suicide model is examined at regular intervals.



# **Screening and Assessment**

- Screen specifically for suicide risk, using a standardized screening tool, in any health care population with elevated risk.
- Screening concerns lead to immediate clinical assessment by an appropriately credentialed, "suicidality savvy" clinician.

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## PHQ-9

Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by any of the following problems? (use ""," to indicate your answer)	No it all	Sand Say	Marine Bart	Marily seem Los
Little interest or pleasure in doing things	0	1	2	3
2. Feeling down, depressed, or hopeless	O	1	2	3
<ol> <li>Trouble falling or staying asleep, or sleeping too much</li> </ol>	0	1	2	3
4. Feeling tired or having little energy	0	1	2	3
5. Poor appetite or overeating	0	1	2	3
<ol> <li>Feeling bad about yourself—or that you are a failure or have let yourself or your family down</li> </ol>	o	1	2	3
<ol> <li>Trouble concentrating on things, such as reading the newspaper or watching television</li> </ol>	0	1	2	3
Moving or speaking so slowly that other people could have noticed. Or the opposite—being so fidgety or restless that you have been moving around a lot more than usual	0	1	2	3
Thoughts that you would be better off dead, or of hurting yourself in some way	0	100	2	3

## PHQ-9, Item 9

- 9. Over the last two weeks, how often have you been bothered by thoughts that you would be better off dead or of hurting yourself in some way?
  - Not at all
  - Several days
  - More than half the days
  - Nearly every day

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# Columbia - Suicide Severity Rating Scale (Screening Version)

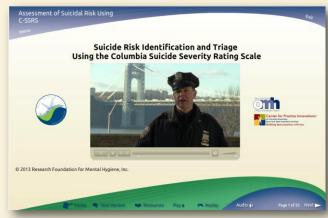
#### In the past month

- 1. Have you wished you were dead or wished you could go to sleep and not wake up?
- 2. Have you actually had any thoughts of killing yourself?

# If YES to 2, ask questions 3, 4, 5, and 6. If NO to 2, go directly to question 6.

- 3. Have you been thinking about how you might kill yourself?
- 4. Have you had these thoughts and had some intention of acting on them?
- 5. Have you started to work out or worked out the details of how to kill yourself? Do you intend to carry out this plan?
- 6. Have you ever done anything, started to do anything, or prepared to do anything to end your life?

## **Resource: Using the C-SSRS**



Access at: www.zerosuicide.com

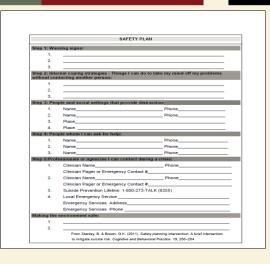
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## **Safety Planning and Means Restriction**

- → All persons with suicide risk have a safety plan in hand when they leave care that day.
- Safety planning is collaborative and includes:
  - » aggressive means restriction
  - » communication with family members and other caregivers
  - » regular review and revision of the plan

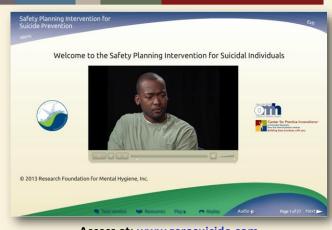
# Safety Planning Intervention (Stanley & Brown)

- 1. Warning signs
- 2. Internal distraction
- 3. External distraction
- 4. Social support
- 5. Professional support
- 6. Means reduction



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# **Resource: Safety Planning Intervention**



Access at: www.zerosuicide.com

#### **Lethal Means Restriction**

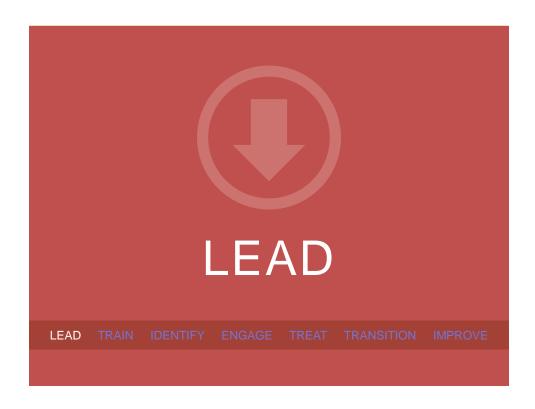
- → Means restriction included on all safety plans
- → Contacting family to confirm removal of lethal means is required, standard practice
- → Training provided to staff
- → Means restriction recommendations reviewed regularly

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# Resource: Counseling on Access to Lethal Means



Access at: www.zerosuicide.com

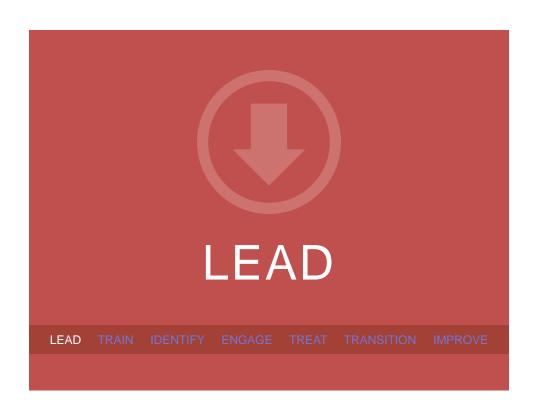


## **Effective, Evidence-Based Treatment**

Care directly targets and treats suicidality and behavioral health disorders using effective, evidence-based treatments.

#### **Discussion at Tables**

- →What is the general approach to providing evidence-based treatment for suicide in your organization?
- → What type of training does staff receive on how to develop a collaborative safety plan?
- → What type of training does clinical staff receive on means restriction?
- →Where do you see room for improvement in your training practices?



## **Resources and Support**

- → Listserv: <a href="http://zerosuicide.sprc.org/get-involved">http://zerosuicide.sprc.org/get-involved</a>
- → Implementation Toolkit: ZeroSuicide.com
- → Organizational Self-Study:
- → <a href="http://zerosuicide.sprc.org/what-organizational-self-study">http://zerosuicide.sprc.org/what-organizational-self-study</a>
- → nowmatters.now.org

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#### Thank You!

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